

# **NANO NAGLE**



**A STORY OF FAITH  
AND COURAGE**

# WORLD HISTORY

NANO NAGLE	ENGLAND	THE CHURCH	EUROPE	AMERICA	ARTS, LETTERS, INVENTIONS, DISCOVERIES.
1718 Nano Nagle born.	1702 William III died.	1712 Poor Clares in Dublin.	1710 Port Royal, Paris, closed.	1729 Founding of English Colonies at Carolina.	1712 The Rape of the Lock.
1719 Her brother David born.	1709 Alex. Selkirk taken off Juan Fernandez Island.	1713 Clement XI Unigenitus.	1715 Death of Louis XIV. Philip of Orleans, Regent.		1720 Bankruptcy in France
1724 Her brother Joseph born.					South Sea Bubble, London.
1726 Swift's Gulliver's Travels	1714 Queen Anne died. George I King		1719 Death of St John Baptiste de la Salle	1732 Washington born.	Cork Harbour Yachting Club.
1729 Edmund Burke born	1719 Defoe's Robinson Crusoe.	1721 Pope Innocent XIII			1725 North Pacific Straits discovered by Bering.
1731 Nano's father out of Ireland.	1727 Death of Isaac Newton. George II King.			1759 Surrender of Quebec France lost Canada.	1728 John Gay's Beggar's Opera first performed.
1733 Raid on her uncle Joseph. and on Bishop Mc Carthy.	1744 Alexander Pope died.	1724 Pope Benedict XIII	1726 Louis XV accedes to power.		1738 The Flying Shuttle.
1735 Francis Moylan born.	1746 (16 April) Battle of Culloden - Charles Stuart defeated.		1734 Bach's Christmas Oratorio.	1773 The Boston Tea Party.	1741 Handel's Messiah, Dublin.
1739 Famine in Ireland. Nano aged 21.	1756-63 The Seven Years War between England France.		1734 Dupleix becomes governor of the French East India Company.		1742 Edward Halley, Astronomer, died.
1745 Her brother, Joseph fought in the battle of Fontenoy		1730 Pope Clement XII Redemptorists founded.		1775 The American war of Independence.	1756 Mozart born.
1746 Nano's father died.	1759 Wm Pitt, the Younger, born.	1733 Movement of Wesley and Methodists			1759 Laurence Sterne's Tristram Shandy.
1748 Her mother died.	1760 George III, King.	1737 Passionists founded.	1762 Rousseau's Social Contract	1777 Burgoyne surrendered at Saratoga.	1765 James Hargreaves' Spinning Jenny.
1749 Marriage settlement of David Nagle and Mary Harrold	1766 James Stuart, the old Pretender, Died.	1740 Benedict XIV	Coalition of France Austria and Spain linked with agrarian trouble in Munster		1768 First voyage of Cook in the South Pacific.
1752 Nano gathered thirty children	1770 Cook discovered Botany Bay.	1758 Clement XIII		1778 The Franco-American Alliance.	1771 Joseph Lancaster Born.
1757 Nano's uncle Joseph died.	1772 W. Hastings, Gov. Bengal. Oliver Goldsmith died.	1760 Fra Junipero Serra in California.	1764 Madame Pompadour died.		1775 Watt's engine for pumping water out of mines.
1758 Nano's sister Elizabeth married R. French, Galway.	1774 The Test Oath.	1765 Feast of the Sacred Heart instituted.	1774 Louis XVI, King.	1786 James Rumsey invented the Steamboat.	1779 David Garrick, actor, died.
1763 John Butler, Bishop of Cork	1775 Turner, the Artist, born.	1769 Clement XIV	1776 Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations.		1783 Montgolfier Brothers fly a hot air balloon.
Fr. Francis Moylan returned to Cork.	1780 The Gordon Riots. London.	1775 Pope Pius VI.	1778 The death of Voltaire.		1786 Earliest attempts at gas lighting in England, Germany.
1766 St Finbarr's south built. Nano visited her brothers in Bath.	1781 Riots in Bath.	1786 Jansenist Synod of Pistoia.	1788 The Second Partition of Poland.	1787 Penal Colony at Botany Bay. AUSTRALIA	1798 Jenner's cure for smallpox.
1771 The Ursulines come to Cork.	1782 Rodney defeated the French in the West Indies.	1799 Pope Pius VII.			
1775 The birth of Daniel O'Connell	1784-1801 Pitt, Tory, in power.				
1778 The first Catholic Relief Bill					
1783 Nano built a home for destitute women.					
1784 Nano died 26 April.					

A MOVEMENT OF RELIGIOUS  
AND SOCIAL RECOVERY

# NANO NAGLE

**a story of faith and courage**

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In 1718, Nano Nagle was born at Ballygriffin, Co. Cork, Ireland.





10 years later... Nana was a spirited little girl, full of fun and mischief!

DAVID! MARY!  
COME ON!  
CLIMB UP!...

NANO! COME  
DOWN AT ONCE!

MOTHER! MOTHER!...  
NANO HAS FALLEN DOWN!  
I THINK SHE'S HURT!

NOT AT ALL!...

GO STRAIGHT HOME,  
NANO, WAIT TILL  
YOUR FATHER  
COMES HOME!

MAY WE GO  
BOATING  
WITH THE  
BOYS, PLEASE  
MOTHER?

IF YOU HAVE  
FINISHED YOUR  
LESSONS FOR  
MR. O'HALLORAN.

I HAVE!

I'LL COME  
BACK  
EARLY AND  
DO MINE!

NANO, WHY ARE  
YOU SO WILD?  
YOU MUST STAY  
IN, AND LEARN  
YOUR LESSONS!

SORRY, MOTHER,  
BUT I JUST LOVE  
PLAYING AND  
JUMPING AND  
RUNNING AND...

PLEASE, MOTHER,  
LET NANO COME!  
WE'D HAVE NO  
FUN WITHOUT  
HER!...

JUST THIS  
ONCE THEN.

THANK YOU,  
MOTHER!...







Once again, Nano is complained to her Father, who always forgives her.



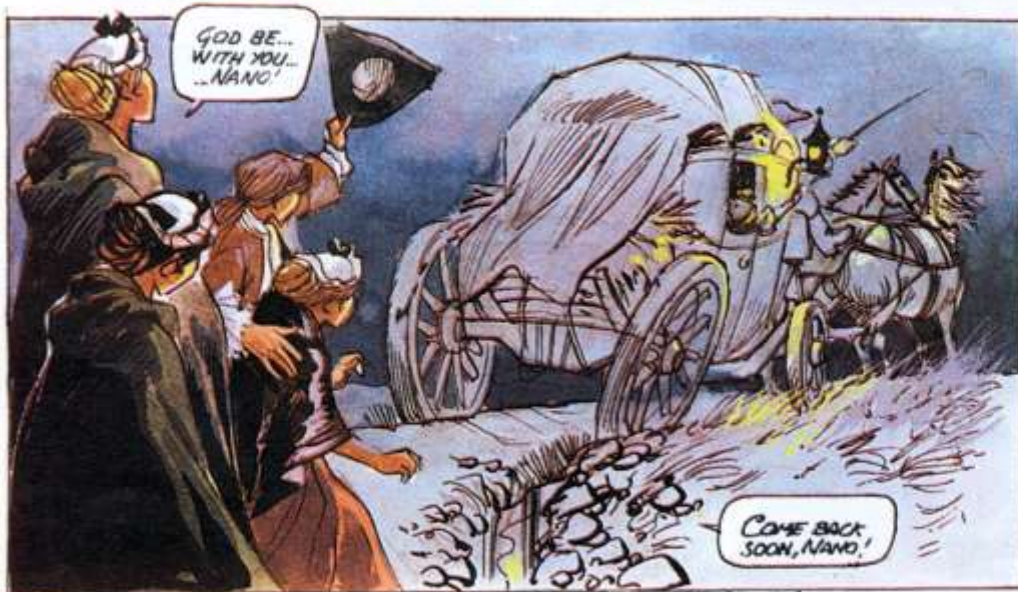
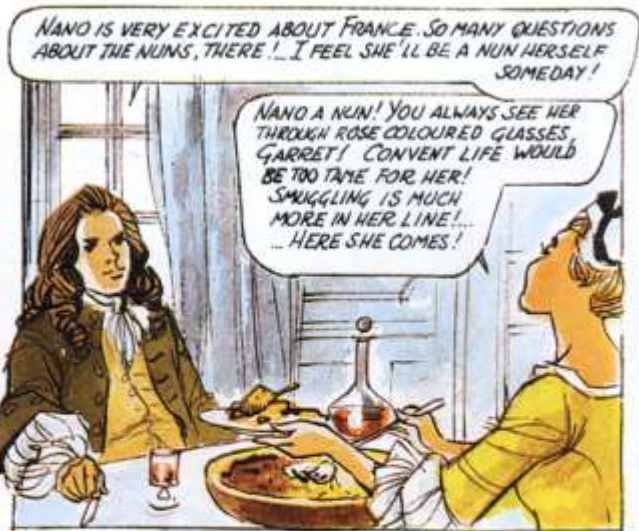


Nano was taught at the hedge school in the ruins of Monanymy Castle.



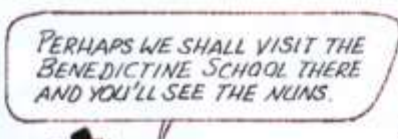
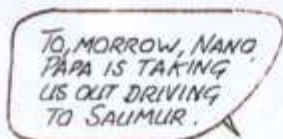


# Mass Rocks and exiles





Nano in France





Nano's school days in France





Nano on holiday with cousins in Paris. Hears news from Ireland.





The end of happy schooldays for Nano.





During her schooldays, her sister Ann had joined Nana in France.





Nano loved Paris with its fashions, its balls and its masquerades.





Nano, the Belle of the Ball





After the ball, Nano's way of life is challenged by the poor.



OH! WHY ARE THE HORSES FRIGHTENED?

THOSE POOR PEOPLE WAITING AT THE CHURCH DOOR FOR MASS MUST HAVE FRIGHTENED THEM.

THE PEOPLE ARE SHIVERING WITH THE COLD. HOW MUCH THEY MUST LOVE THE MASS TO SUFFER LIKE THAT IN THE EARLY WINTER MORNING!

AND WE ARE GOING HOME TO HEAT AND COMFORT...

THE POOR VALUE THEIR FAITH. I VALUE ONLY PLEASURE. YET GOD DRAWS US ALL TO HIMSELF... RICH AND POOR, ALIKE... WHY DO THESE THOUGHTS KEEP TORMENTING ME DAY AND NIGHT?



NANO! STILL IN YOUR BALL-DRESS!

I CANNOT REST. I'M STILL THINKING OF THOSE POOR PEOPLE AT THE CHURCH

OH, NANO! YOU'RE BECOMING MELANCHOLIC. YOU ARE OVER-TIRED!

COME ON, NANO! CHANGE YOUR DRESS. WE'RE GOING FOR A DRIVE TO FONTAINEBLEAU. TIME ENOUGH FOR SERIOUS TALK WHEN WE ARE OLD!

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT FOR ENJOYMENT!

LET'S GET READY THEN! LET ME THINK WHAT I'LL WEAR... YES, MY NEW FUR-LINED CLOAK!





The death of her Father in 1746, compelled Nano and Ann to return to Ireland. First to Ballygriffin and later to Dublin....

MOTHER HAS FINALLY DECIDED TO LIVE IN DUBLIN, ANN. I WILL GO WITH HER.

SO WILL I, NANO... CATHERINE IS WELL ABLE TO HOUSE-KEEP FOR DAVID.

MOTHER SEEMS HAPPY ENOUGH HERE IN DUBLIN.... OUR NEIGHBOURS IN BACHELOR'S WALK ARE SO KIND.

YES, BUT SHE STILL MISSES DAD VERY MUCH.



I LIKE THIS VIEW OF THE LIFFEY, BUT MY MIND'S EYE SEES THE BLACKWATER AND THE NAGLE MOUNTAINS...

I WILL ALWAYS LOVE BALLYGRIFFIN BUT I'D MISS DAD TOO MUCH IF I STAYED THERE.

ANN, WHERE IS THAT ROLL OF SILK I BROUGHT HOME FROM FRANCE? I'M GOING TO MAKE MYSELF A NEW DRESS...

THE SILK! I HOPE YOU WON'T MIND NANO!... I SOLD IT TO BUY CLOTHES AND FOOD FOR A POOR FAMILY HERE.



YOU ARE SO GOOD, ANN!... I'LL FORGET, OR TRY TO FORGET FRANCE AND VISIT THE POOR WITH YOU. LET ME HELP YOU WITH THOSE PARCELS.

THE STRANGE THING IS, NANO! YOU'LL FIND THAT THE POOR WILL HELP YOU MORE THAN YOU CAN EVER HELP THEM.

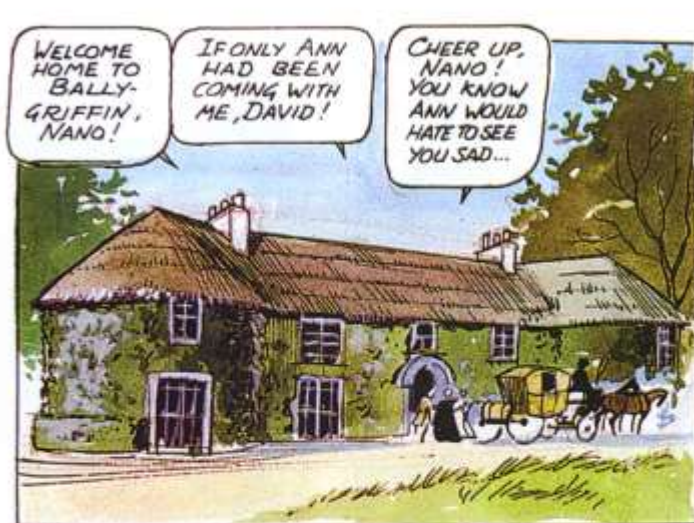
DEAR ANN, I SOMETIMES FEEL YOU ARE MY GUARDIAN ANGEL GUIDING ME ALONG THE RIGHT PATH!

IT IS CHRIST WHO IS GUIDING YOU, NANO. I AM ONLY HIS WEAK INSTRUMENT.





To the great sorrow of her family, Ann dies after a short illness, and Nano returns to Ballygriffin...





Nano becomes a novice in a French Convent.

YOU LOOK SO WORRIED, NANO! YOU SEEM TO HAVE LOST ALL YOUR VIVACITY...

I THOUGHT I WOULD BE AT PEACE HERE, SISTER, BUT THE PLIGHT OF THE POOR IRISH CHILDREN STILL TROUBLES ME.

PRAY MUCH ABOUT THIS, NANO... GOD WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY...

ALWAYS IN MY DREAMS THE CHILDREN CALL ME BACK. TO BE HONEST, SISTER, I FEEL I RAN AWAY FROM THEM.

I HAVE TALKED TO MA MERE ABOUT YOUR WORRY. OUR ADVICE IS THAT YOU CONSULT YOUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR AND TELL HIM ALL.

IT WILL BE A LONG STORY, SISTER... I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO GIVE HIM A FULL PICTURE OF THE SAD STATE OF IRELAND.

FROM WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD ME, NANO, I REALISE THAT THE FAITH IN IRELAND IS AT RISK. GOD IS CLEARLY CALLING YOU TO RETURN AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

WHAT COULD I, ONE FRAIL WOMAN, DO?

YOU SAY THERE HAS BEEN NO IRISH LEADER SINCE SARSFIELD. THEN, SOMEONE, MUST LEAD THIS GENERATION. WHY NOT YOU?

YOU MUST BE JOKING, FATHER!... I'M NO JOAN OF ARC! I MIGHT BE ABLE TO TEACH, BUT THERE'S A PRICE ON THE HEAD OF ANY CATHOLIC TEACHER IN IRELAND.

NANO, GOD IS CALLING YOU FOR EXACTLY THAT! IGNORANCE IS THE GREATEST OPPRESSION.

BUT I AM SO WEAK AND SO AFRAID. BESIDES MY PHYSICAL HEALTH ISN'T THAT GOOD EITHER... TO BEGIN AN ILLEGAL UNDERTAKING ALONE!... HOW COULD I?

LIKE ALL THE IRISH, YOU WOULD ARGUE WITH THE DEVIL, NANO! HE CERTAINLY WILL NOT WANT YOU TO RETURN TO IRELAND! THE INSPIRATION IS FROM GOD, NANO. TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!

PRAY FOR ME, THAT I WILL HAVE THE COURAGE TO TAKE IT!...



Nano's first school in Cork, Ireland. 1754.  
 Nono is now living with her brother Joseph and his wife Frances in Cork City.





10 years later — Nana now has seven schools in Cork City.

THANK YOU AGAIN, FRANCES FOR SUPPORTING ME WHEN JOSEPH GOT INTO SUCH A RAGE ABOUT MY FIRST SCHOOL ...

AND NOW THAT HAS GROWN TO SEVEN SCHOOLS.

WELL, NANO, AND HOW ARE THE SCHOOLS GOING ?

I HAVE BECOME A GREAT WALKER, GOING FROM COVE LANE, TO CROSS ST. AND NOW UP TO THE NORTHSIDE. THE CHILDREN ARE WONDERFUL.

I MADE HER OPEN THE TWO BOYS' SCHOOLS... NO POINT IN HAVING ONLY THE GIRLS EDUCATED.



I'M SO GRATEFUL FOR ALL YOUR HELP, ZINCLE JOSEPH!

NANO SAYS YOU RISKED EVERYTHING TO SUPPORT HER.

YOU KNOW ME, FRANCES. I ALWAYS MANAGE TO GET ROUND UNJUST LAWS!

NANO, YOU LOOK SO TIRED! DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO EACH SCHOOL EVERY DAY?

YET, YOUR CHEST SEEMS MUCH BETTER.

AT FIRST ALL THE TALKING NEARLY KILLED ME... NOW IT NO LONGER AFFECTS ME.



... BESIDES I HAVE GOOD HELPERS!

BUT YOU STILL WORK TOO HARD!

IT MUST BE THE NAGLE MOTTO: "NOT WORDS BUT DEEDS"!

I OFTEN THINK MY SCHOOLS WILL NEVER BRING ME TO HEAVEN AS I ONLY TAKE DE LIGHT AND PLEASURE IN THEM!





Nana looks across the seas.





Nano, the Lady of the Lantern.





Memories of France.

THANK YOU, SIR JAMES!

SURELY YOU ARE NOT MISS NAGLE?



I'M BEGGING FOR MY CHILDREN, SIR JAMES.

THEN YOU MUST HAVE MARRIED A WASTREL?



YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, SIR JAMES. I'M NOT MARRIED, BUT GOD HAS GIVEN ME MANY CHILDREN... I AM BEGGING FOR MY SEVEN SCHOOLS IN THIS CITY.

YOU WERE ALWAYS AN IDEALIST, NANO, ALWAYS AWAY AHEAD OF THE REST OF US...



I AM A REALIST, SIR JAMES. I SEE WORK TO BE DONE AND I TRY TO DO IT.

I SALUTE THE NAGLE SPIRIT.



ADIEU, NANO!

GOD GO WITH YOU, SIR JAMES.





1775. Nana Nagle founds the Society for Charitable Instruction, known later as the "PRESENTATION SISTERS". Nana was then 57 years old.





On the 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1777, Nano Nagle and her three companions, pronounced their Vows.





From 1775-1780, Nana's cottage in Cove Lane was the first Presentation Convent.





In 1778, Teresa Mulally, Nano's Dublin friend travels to Cork to visit her...

WELCOME TO CORK, TERESA! I LONG TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR WORK FOR THE POOR IN DUBLIN.

AND I WANT TO SEE THE WORK OF YOUR SOCIETY, NANO.



I ADMIRE YOUR WAY OF LIFE, NANO. YOU BALANCE WORK AND PRAYER SO WELL.

OUR LIFE HAS TO BE DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ENCLOSED MUNS.

WHEN CAN YOU SEND ME SISTERS, NANO?

LOOK AT THE FEW OF US, TERESA! AND WE HAVE PROMISED BISHOP MOYLAN TO SEND THE FIRST SISTERS TO KILLARNEY... YOUR ONLY HOPE, TERESA, IS TO SEND US CANDIDATES.

THEN, WITH GOD'S HELP THE SECOND FOUNDATION WILL BE GEORGE'S HILL IN THE METROPOLIS.



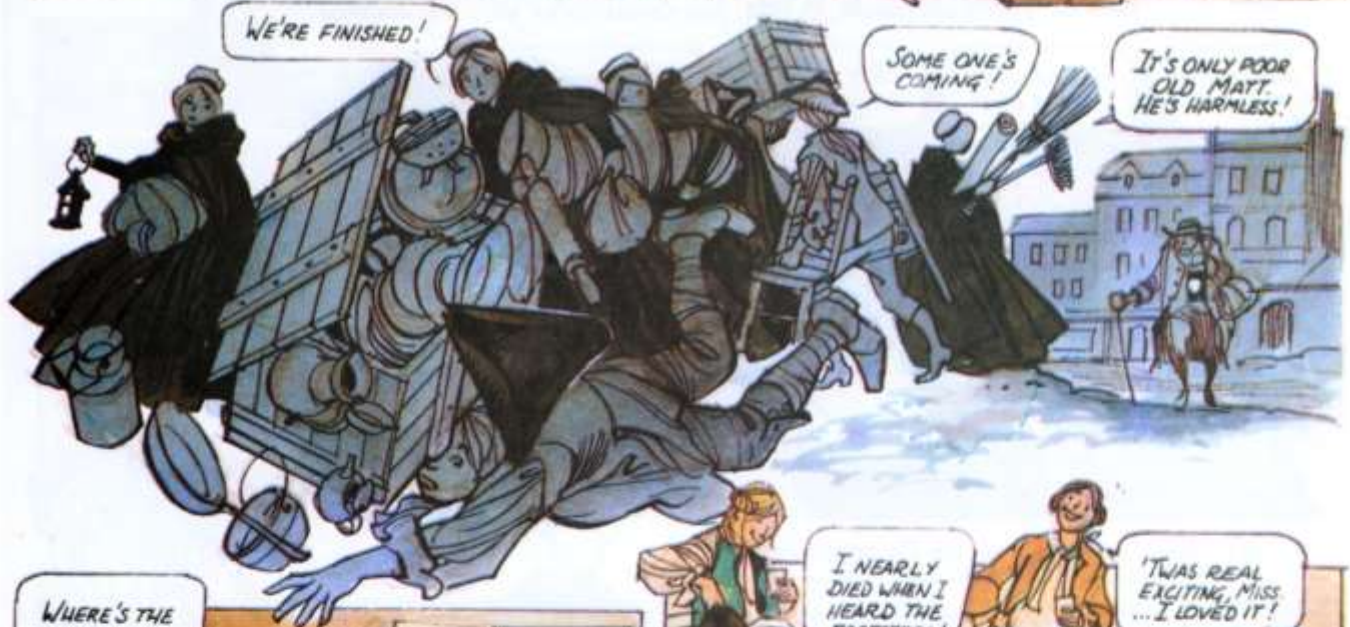
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MUCH YOU HAVE CHEERED ME UP, NANO!

NEVER GIVE UP, TERESA! EVEN THOUGH YOU AND I MAY NOT LIVE TO SEE IT, THIS SOCIETY WILL SURELY FLOURISH.





On July 16<sup>th</sup> 1780, Nana and companions move from their cottage to the small Convent built by Nana in Cove Lane.





1782.



Before Elizabeth's death, in 1783, four Candidates join the Society.



In 1783, Nano opened a house for aged women.





April 1784 - Nana's last days





Farewell, Nano...

WHAT WILL  
WE DO,  
NANO?

JUST KEEP  
ON LOVING  
ONE  
ANOTHER!

I SEE COUNTLESS CHILDREN  
AND MANY, MANY SISTERS...  
LOOK AFTER THE CHILDREN,  
THE CHILDREN... THE CHILDREN...



NANO NAGLE DIED  
ON MONDAY, APRIL  
26<sup>TH</sup> 1784  
AGED 66 YEARS.

MISS NAGLE IS DEAD!

DID YOU HEAR  
THAT?... NANO  
NAGLE IS DEAD!

OUR OWN NANO!  
OCHONE! OCHONE!  
OCHONE!!!

I LOVE THAT  
POEM ABOUT  
NANO NAGLE.  
READ IT  
AGAIN, SEAN!

LISTEN!

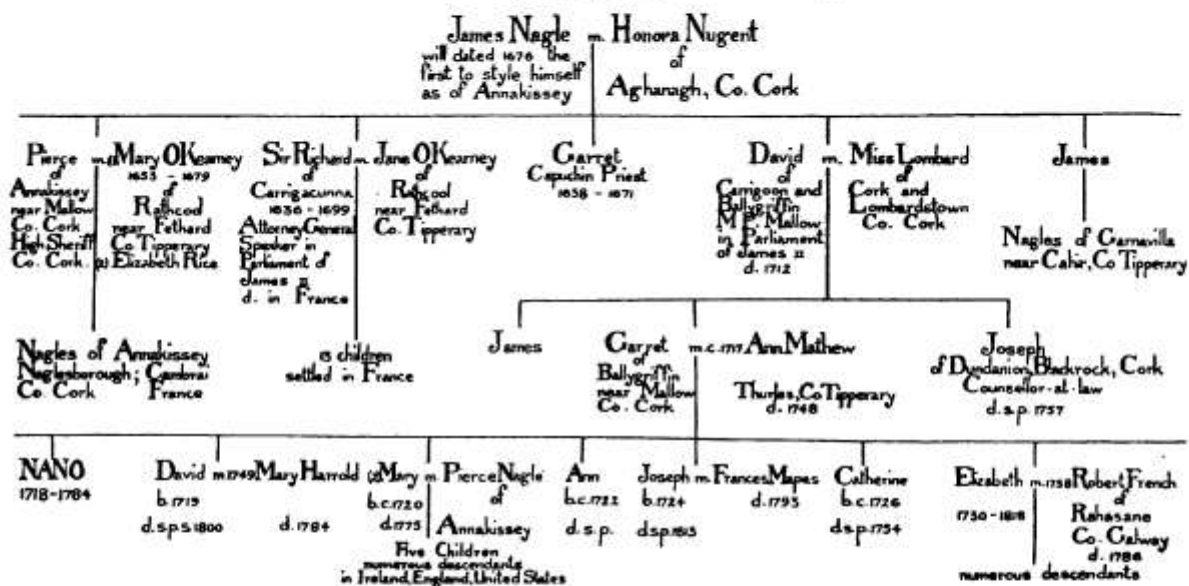
"LANES HER HEM TOUCHED WERE CURED OF  
HOPELESSNESS.  
HER CLOAK WAS MOTHERSKIRT THAT CUDDLED CROWDS,  
AND DESERT TENT FOR HEARTS LOVE PARCHED  
AND STRAY.  
HER LAMP SWUNG ON A DOOR TO HAPPINESS,  
BROUGHT LIFE TO MINDS WERE NURTURED  
IN THEIR SHROUDS  
AND SHOWED THE WAY TO LIGHT WAS LIGHT, THE WAY!"

IT SUMS HER UP, BOY!

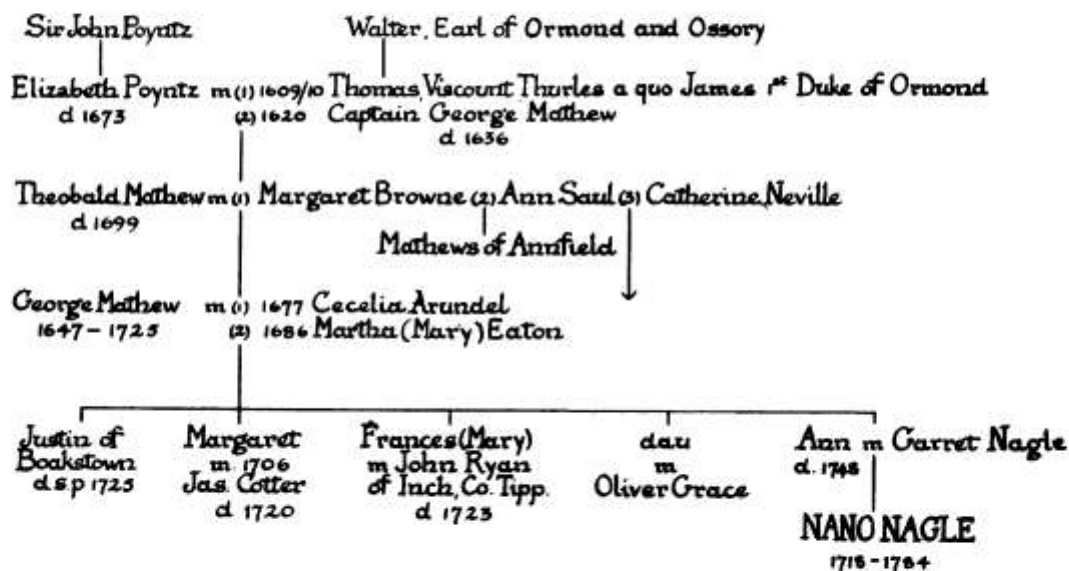




Nagles of Annakissey  
Genealogical Line of Nano Nagle.



## Maternal Ancestry of Nano Nagle





# Nagle Coat of Arms



The Nagle Coat of Arms has the horizontal bar in azure blue with three diamonds in gold. The oak design predominates.

The Presentation Sisters adopted the Nagle Coat of Arms with some modifications. The gold-finch is supplanted by the cross and effulgence as found on the ring worn by Presentation Sisters - symbol of faith and strength. The two sprays of oak are symbolic of growth and the two skeins binding them together denote union. The scroll was designed by Archbishop Ryan, O.P., and it was he who gave the motto - Adorant Dominum in Atrio Sancto (Adore the Lord in His Holy Court). This supplants the Nagle motto: Non Vox sed Votum (Not a voice but a wish - more freely translated "Not words but deeds").

In heraldry gold denotes generosity and elevation of mind. Azure, or blue, signifies loyalty and truth. It was the colour devoted to Our Blessed Lady. Green signifies hope, joy, and sometimes loyalty in love. The Oak holds the first place among trees, and is said to signify antiquity and strength. Wreaths of oak leaves were consecrated to jupiter, and the tree itself was held sacred by the Greeks.

The Fess or band borne in the centre of the shield is the military belt or girdle of honour.

The bar is the same form as the Fess, but of lesser breadth. It is said by Quillin to be suitable as a bearing of one "who sets the bar of conscience, religion, and honour against angry passions and evil temptations."

Speaking of the Fess, Quillin says, "It is a military girdle of honour, and signifies that the bearer must be always in readiness to undergo the business of the public weal." (Taken from the symbols of Heraldry by W. Cedril Wade.)

## Emblematic Tree in South Cork Convent

A parable - The Irish Oak, showing the growth of the Presentation Order, was planted by Nano Nagle in South Cork on Christmas Day, 1775. Its acorns are the Houses, the fruit of the Mother Convent. To the left is the Convent and its Schools, the child and her Angel, and the Cross prostrate on the Shamrock - work of the Penal Laws. To the right, the new era begins: Faith and Hope revive; the Bishops are inspired with zeal and courage; the Holy Father confirms his brethren; the Cross over Mary's initial declares the aim and the patroness of the Order; the half-globe prophesies the missionary expansion to other lands.

